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SEPTEMBER 4.

MR. CHARLES MORRIS in the chair.

Twenty-three persons present.

SEPTEMBER 11.

MR. CHARLES P. PEROT in the chair.

Nineteen persons present.

The death of H. T. Cresson, September 6, 1894, was announced.

SEPTEMBER 18.

MR. CHARLES MORRIS in the chair.

Twenty-five persons present.

SEPTEMBER 25.

MR. CHARLES P. PEROT in the chair.

Twenty-nine persons present.

Papers under the following titles were presented for publication:—

“Descriptions of a New Subgenus and New Species of Arvicoline Rodents from British Columbia and Washington,” by Samuel N. Rhoads.

“Recent Mound Exploration in Ohio,” by Clarence B. Moore.

“List of the Diptera of Jamaica, with Descriptions of New Species,” by Charles W. Johnson.

Observations on Blarina brevicauda.—DR. HARRISON ALLEN drew attention to several structural features in this animal. The lower jaw articulates with the skull, not only by the temporo-mandibular joint, but by a sphenoido-mandibular. The one last named was described as being much the larger and apparently more important of the two. The mandibular surface is placed on the inner side of the ascending ramus, and the sphenoidal surface is situated at

the base of the pterygoid process. It forms a deep recess, the mouth of which is directed outward, the bases of the pterygoid processes are convex and opposed to one another on either side of the mesopterygoid fossa. The occipital condyles are without division: the appearance is quite the same as in the Cetacea, and suggests a similar mechanism of the atlanto-occipital joint, namely, a cranium which is deviated scarcely at all from a horizontal plane. The anterior annular ligament of the ankle-joint is ossified, and constitutes part of the tibia. The astragalus is nearly flat on proximal surface, and the patellar trochlea is low and wide. These two characters probably co-ordinate, and establish *Blarina* as an animal whose posterior extremity is of low specialization, and one which supports the trunk imperfectly. The absence of the pubic symphysis probably is associated with the above conditions. The biceps femoris and gracilis constitute one muscle, and the two enclose the slender semitendinosus in a manner suggestive of the tenuissimus of *Lepus*.

The following were ordered to be printed:—